

Message Text

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TAGS EAGR

SUBJ: REVIEW OF COLOMBIAN FMD PROGRAM

REF BOGOTA 4900

1. EMB AGREES WITH INTERAGENCY REVIEW GROUP'S CONCLUSIONS RE DELAYS IN INDERENA. HOWEVER IN VIEW OF COMMITMENT GIVEN BY MINAG VALLEJO TO ASST SECY YEUTTER IN BOGOTA TO HAVE FMD PROGRAM MOUNTED AND OPERATING PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM MIN IN AUG AND IN VIEW OF RECENT MEASURES TAKEN BY INDERENA TO CARRY OUT SRG RECOMMENDATIONS IN LOS KATIOS PARK AND BORDER ZONE WE FEEL THAT LETTER TO MINAG WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY AT THIS TIME. SINCE SRG MEETING IN BOGOTA, INDERENA HAS SENT A TOTAL OF 26 PEOPLE IN TEAMS INTO LOS KATIOS AND THE PROTECTED FOREST ZONE TO STOP FURTHER INFLUX OF SETTLERS, TAKE CENSUS OF THOSE IN AREA AND IN FOREST ZONE TO MARK ZONE LIMITS.

2. WE DO HOWEVER SUPPORT RECOMMENDATION THAT ONE MEMBER OF USDA ADVISORY GROUP BE ASSIGNED DIRECTLY WITH INDERENA IN ADVISORY ROLE AND PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANTLY TO MONITOR PROGRESS AND IDENTIFY BOTTLENECKS. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THIS COULD BE DONE UNDER TERMS OF AGREEMENT THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS OR BY A REQUEST FROM THE SENIOR TECHNICAL ADVISOR THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO THE ICA GENERAL MANAGER. WE WOULD ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEMS IN OBTAINING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOC APPROVAL OF SUCH A REQUEST.

3. RE ESTABLISHMENT OF LOS KATIOS PARK DECREE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN DIARIO OFICIO BUT PRES HAS NOT CONSECRATED THIS WITH PRESIDENTIAL RESOLUTION. AGATT RAISED QUESTION WITH VALLEJO WHO GAVE HIS VIEW THAT LEGAL BASIS FOR PARK WAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED BY DECREE. HE SAID HOWEVER THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO STATUS OF RESOLUTION AND UNDERTAKE TO OBTAIN PRESIDENTIAL SIGNATURE.

4. WE AGREE WITH CONCLUSION RE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN CHOCO TO ULTIMATE FMD PROGRAM SUCCESS BUT IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THIS GOVT IS ABOUT TO END AND NEXT ADMIN MAY HAVE DISTINCT IDEAS RE PROGRAM WE FEEL PREFERABLE COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE TO UNDERTAKE STUDY OF CHOCO SITUATION IN DEPTH IN NEXT 2 TO 3 MONTHS TO DEVELOP BASIS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH NEW GOVT. IN ADDITION AID MISSION HERE HAS SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT VALUE OF PILOT PROJECT APPROACH IN CHOCO AND WOULD PREFER DESIGN BROADER PROGRAM WHICH WOULD MORE ADEQUATELY MEET AREA NEEDS. AID HAS IN FACT ALREADY INITIATED SUCH STUDY IN CONNECTION WITH FY75 PROGRAM REVIEW.
VAKY

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